



International Civil Aviation Organization

**SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY TEAM
(APRAST/7)**

(Bangkok, Thailand, 31 August to 4 September 2015)

Agenda Item 5: Update, discussion and review of APRAST activities

**REPORT ON ICAO REGIONAL ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION WORKSHOP
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

The ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop was hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka on 25 – 26 June 2015. The Workshop was a very useful platform for the participants to share experience, exchange information and network.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 25 – 26 June 2015. It was kindly hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka (CAASL). The workshop was the ninth in the series of ICAO Asia Pacific regional workshops which started in 2001.

1.2 The Workshop was attended by 53 participants from 19 States/Administrations and seven participants from international organisations/industry partners. The participants were from Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, France, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Macau China, Malaysia, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, ICAO, Boeing, Embraer, IATA and IFALPA. There were also 20 participants from the local aviation industry.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Mr. Amal Hewawasam of the ICAO APAC Office delivered the Welcome Address. He highlighted that there were several high-profile accidents that occurred in the past year and it is important for investigators to be prepared to conduct such investigations. He conveyed that ICAO encouraged States and industry to participate actively in the workshop to enhance investigation expertise.

2.2 In his address to the Workshop, Mr. H. M. C. Nimalsiri, Director General of CAASL, highlighted that the APAC region had an above-global-average safety record for the previous year. Even so, accident investigators have to continuously strive to enhance their capabilities and an ICAO workshop provides an opportunity.

2.3 Twenty-one presentations were made during the two-day workshop. The topics and presenters included:

- Lessons learnt from major accident investigations – Australia, Boeing, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea and United Arab Emirates
- Role of manufacturer in accident investigation – Boeing
- Family assistance during an accident – China
- Conducting investigations on similar incidents that occurred in different countries – France
- Automation-related serious incidents – Australia
- Experience on industry engagement – Hong Kong China
- Accident investigation in extreme and challenging environments – Singapore, France
- Use of advanced equipment for accident investigation – Singapore
- Cabin safety investigation – Embraer
- Challenges of sea search and recovery operation – Indonesia, Singapore

2.4 These topics generated much discussion during the workshop sessions and also during the breaks. Issues of interest included the following:

- Improper securing of odd-sized cargo leading to centre-of-gravity shift during a flight
- The value of coordination among investigation agencies investigating similar occurrences, so that their reports and safety recommendations can be harmonised
- Spatial disorientation resulting from limited perceptual cues, leading to loss of control
- How to maximise the potential of UAVs to complement investigation work.
- Strengthening of rapport among investigation agencies before an accident event, leading to better mutual assistance and support when an accident occurs

2.5 The workshop also included a three-hour practical session on the first day, where the use of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) for crash site mapping was demonstrated. The participants had an opportunity to operate the UAV during a hands-on session, allowing them to better understand how to fly a UAV manually.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The ICAO Regional Accident Investigation Workshop was a very useful platform for the participants to share experience, exchange information and network. It goes a long way in promoting regional cooperation, as encouraged by ICAO.

3.2 The ICAO APAC Office wishes to put on record its appreciation to CAASL for hosting the workshop and for the hospitality.

3.3 The ICAO APAC Office encourages States/Administrations to participate in as well as host future regional workshops.